

JULY 2009

INSIDE | AUT

NEWS FROM AUT UNIVERSITY | TE WĀNANGA ARONUI O TĀMAKI MAKAU RAU

Largest HRC funding grant for AUT to date

AUT UNIVERSITY'S National Research Centre for Stroke Applied Neurosciences and Neurorehabilitation (NRC-SANN) has received \$2.37 million from the Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC) to conduct the world's largest population-based Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) incidence and outcomes study here in New Zealand.

The three-year study will quantify the incidence of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) in a nationally representative population of New Zealand. It will provide crucial background information for evidence-based health care services including rehabilitation, resource planning and evaluation of effects of preventative and management strategies for TBI in this country.

The funding is the largest sum ever awarded to AUT University for any one study and Professor Valery Feigin, director of NRC-SANN, says this highlights the importance of unearthing a clearer understanding of TBI.

"TBI is one of the leading causes of disability and death in New Zealand and has a significant impact not only on the individual, but also on their immediate and extended family, friends and society.

"Accurate information about the true extent and nature of the problems is lacking both in New Zealand and internationally.

"Study findings will contribute considerably to the international body of knowledge in this area."

The study will examine the burden of TBI across gender, age and all ethnic groups found within the study population area of Hamilton and the Waikato District, thus addressing disparities (such as gender, ethnicity) which are known to exist in recorded TBI cases.

The research team will also rely on the support of ABI Rehabilitation Management Ltd, The Laura Ferguson Trust, Brain Injury Association of New Zealand, ACC and other

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International accolade for professional wine studies paper

AUT UNIVERSITY'S professional wine studies paper has received recognition and acclaim from an international industry expert.

Bill Hardy, Brand Ambassador for Hardys Wine, is enthusiastic about the AUT paper taught by Master Sommelier Cameron Douglas. "I applaud the initiative by AUT to strengthen wine knowledge among prospective restaurant service personnel."

Hardys is the second most powerful wine brand in the world according to a list compiled in the UK of the most powerful wine and spirit brands. Senior Lecturer Cameron Douglas is the only Master Sommelier in Australasia inducted into the International Court of Master Sommeliers in 2007. His experience in the hospitality industry spans more than 25 years and includes positions with some of the best known establishments in the country.

The pair presented a Hardys wine tasting and blending exercise to a class who also got the chance to hear stories from the Hardys Australian wine dynasty.

Hardy believes New Zealand and Australia need a stronger base of Sommeliers. "We lag far behind Europe, North America, Japan (and probably a number of other countries) in terms of

employment of knowledgeable wine staff in dining establishments," says Hardy.

Douglas agrees and says there aren't enough people working in the hospitality industry who understand the importance of the combination of wine and food. "Poorly trained staff can result in sloppy service or a mediocre dining experience," he says.

"It is absolutely vital that wine and food service staff, dealing with the customer, should have good wine knowledge. It's great to have a specialist, such as a sommelier, to help with customers' wine queries, but the sommelier cannot be in a thousand places at once, so all service staff need to have the ability to field the common questions and assist with basic wine selection," Hardy adds.

The Professional Wine Studies paper was launched this year and targets the professional development of new and established sommeliers and those wanting to move into the wine and hospitality industry.

The course develops the students' knowledge of the vine, wine making, wine and food pairing, tasting skills and wine quality assessment.

LETTER FROM THE VC



THE FIRST semester of 2009 has already come to a close and students will be relieved that the round of exams and final assessments is complete as they await their results. The lead up to the end of semester can be a stressful time for students as they cope with both academic responsibilities and the day-to-day challenges of life: work, finances, family and social commitments, and the onset of winter. With the next semester fast approaching, I'd remind

you that AUT provides a comprehensive and excellent range of support services to help students succeed at university, and I encourage all students and staff to take advantage of them.

You will have seen recent media coverage of the call to implement open entrance to university for Māori students. While there are arguments both for and against the idea, the ensuing discussion around Māori participation at university level has highlighted a problem that is going to get worse, not better, under the current funding regime.

With capped numbers, the most vulnerable students – such as Māori – will be the ones who miss out when university places need to be rationed. Māori have made great leaps forward in accessing tertiary education at higher levels, yet as a recent group to increase their claim on this territory, that hold is less entrenched and thus more tenuous in the face of constraint. AUT seeks to be the university of choice for Māori, and we are proud of our success with Māori students. But while AUT currently has strong numbers of Māori studying and succeeding, the rationing of places has the potential to slow the momentum we've built and reduce opportunity for Māori students seeking university education in the future. Replicated across the sector, that reduced opportunity compounds an existing problem.

We need a funding system that can respond to the demand and aspiration for higher education among all New Zealanders. The Budget in May did not include any significant investment for the university sector, nor did it address the current surge in student growth figures, which will have a pipeline effect next year and beyond. It's true that the Government is operating in a restricted fiscal environment. But do we want to be a country where investment in educating and equipping young people to forge our economic future is the last cab off the rank? Only when we move education towards the top of the funding queue will we ensure – long-term – that New Zealand is a country that succeeds and prospers.

In such a budget climate and against the backdrop of debate around Māori participation in education, AUT's intrinsic commitment to Māori remains firm. Over the last decade AUT has demonstrated an exceptional ability to inspire Māori students to attend university, and to ensure that the Māori students who choose to study at AUT succeed. We have also proven our ability to adapt to the changing policy and funding environment and to convince Government of the value of our expanding contribution. I am confident that AUT can adapt again and continue the growth and progress that will benefit all of our students as we strive to advance our position as a diverse and inclusive university.

Derek McCormack

Largest HRC funding grant for AUT to date

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health care providers to deliver and implement its findings.

"We have the chance to improve the quality of life for thousands of TBI survivors and their family caregivers in New Zealand," says Professor Feigin. "As well as potentially saving the country millions in the provision of health care to TBI sufferers."



AUT Māori Expo '09

NEWLY appointed Green Party co-leader Metiria Turei, nationally renowned funny man and television personality Mike King, and Aotearoa's funk infused band Tahuna Breaks are set to debate, discuss and entertain at the 2009 AUT Māori Expo.

Metiria Turei and Mike King will be part of Nga Pu Korero, the Expo panel discussions. They will be joined by representatives from the major political parties in a discussion on their party's commitment to Māori; while Mike King will head up the sports panel featuring Wynton Rufer, Daniel Kereopa and Buck Shelford.

The Expo will also feature exhibition stalls with information on tertiary study, performances from kapa haka groups and dance crews, classic Māori cuisine and a fashion show with New Zealand streetwear.

Tahuna Breaks will be taking to the stage for the first ever Māori Expo night concert, Groove the Night. They will be joined by hip hop royalty Che Fu, the legendary reggae stylings of Cornerstone Roots, Three Houses Down and House of Shem, the soulful vocals of The Jick and more. They'll be performing as you've never seen them before, in New Zealand's premier venue.

AUT Māori Expo is a free community event which celebrates Māori success in education, culture, entertainment, sports, fashion, the arts and business. It's now in its 14th year, and will be held on Thursday August 27 at Vector Arena. Visit www.maoriexpo.co.nz for more information.

AUT staff and students will receive discounted tickets to Groove the Night. To find out how, email maoriexpo@aut.ac.nz

Students told to dream big

MINISTER of Youth Affairs Paula Bennett told students to believe in themselves and dream big at the AUT University Prefects Training Programme (PTP) leaders summit last month.

Four hundred student leaders from more than 25 schools around Auckland and the Waikato took part in the day-long programme which featured talks from prominent New Zealand leaders including Bennett.

Bennett said her story is not typical of a politician. She told students about how she got to where she is now; going from being a teenage solo mum, to a dishwasher, to an adult student, and now to a cabinet minister.

“We all know you all have potential,” Bennett told the students. “You will have been hearing that from your family, friends and teachers. But with all due respect to them, the only person who needs to believe in your potential is you. Don’t get too hung up on how others judge you.”

Bennett offered a challenge to the students.

“Are you going to be someone who stands on the sideline or are you going to get in the game? Remember you may be disappointed if you fail, but you’ll be doomed if you don’t try.”

Bennett’s message was backed up by a business panel which featured Head of Retail Operations and Marketing for New Zealand Post Scott Pollard and Creative Director for Mulberry Design Ltd Susie Walker.

Walker told students to strive to be the best they could be and ignore the tall poppy syndrome that New Zealand is famous for.

“Do the best that you can and if you feel like you are being affected by tall poppy syndrome, reinvent it, make it into a positive thing,” she explained.

The leaders’ summit is part of the year long PTP programme between AUT and participating secondary schools, which aims to develop the potential of young leaders by exposing the students to AUT’s expertise, knowledge base and industry relationships.

Minister of Youth Affairs the Hon Paula Bennett addresses students at the PTP leaders’ summit



AUT celebrates sporting prowess

AUT UNIVERSITY students clinched the two top awards at this year’s NZU Blues Awards.

The Supreme Award – NZU Sportsperson of the Year went to business student and Kiwi League star Jerome Ropati and the NZU Māori Sportsperson of the Year went to communications student and Paralympics gold medallist swimmer Cameron Leslie.

Ropati (pictured) was one of eight finalists in the Supreme Award category which also included fellow AUT students Leslie and surf life saver and current world record holder Michael Buck.

Ropati says he is pretty excited about the win as it is the first major academic award he has ever won. A key player in the Warriors drive to the 2008 finals, he is well remembered for his game winning try in the final of the Kiwis’ 2008 World Cup campaign.

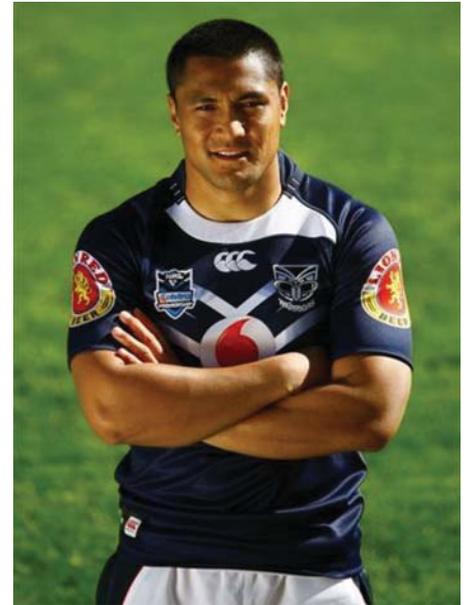
Ropati began his two-year diploma in 2007 alongside fellow Warriors Louis Anderson, Todd Bryne, Nathan Fien, Micheal Luck, Simon Mannering, Grant Rovelli and league icon, Warriors development coach Tony Iro.

AUT tailored the diploma programme to fit in with the players’ demanding training schedule and classes were taught at Warriors HQ, Mt Smart Stadium in Auckland.

Ropati says he used down-time to study, adding that taking papers like marketing has given him a deeper understanding of how sportspeople’s behaviour impacts on their team’s image.

“We’ve looked at how people perceive us, such as the public, media and shareholders, and it has helped us manage how we act,” he says.

Paralympics athlete Leslie was awarded the NZU Māori Sportsperson of the Year award in a category dominated by AUT student athletes, with Black Ferns Teresa Te Tamaki and Football Ferns Emma



Kete also nominated.

Fellow student Shannon Foreman was awarded the Distinguished Performance Award for his outstanding display in kickboxing, an award for athletes who compete in sports currently unsanctioned in New Zealand.

Bruce Meyer, sport development manager at AUT puts the university’s success down to its unique programmes and committed staff who prepare student athletes for life after sport, while still allowing them to pursue their sporting goals.

Eleven AUT students were awarded Blues, with three receiving a further special award for excellence in their chosen sports which included football, hockey, rugby, rugby league, swimming, surf life saving and taekwondo.

The 11 AUT winners were among 39 athletes to receive an award. All recipients have represented their region or country at the highest level while studying at AUT.

The NZU Blues are awarded each year to recognise New Zealand’s top university athletes, honouring their sporting and academic achievements.

A rising star in the events world

AUT STUDENT Alyson Bell is the true definition of a rising star in the events world, after picking up a Rising Star scholarship.

Currently studying a Diploma of Event Management, Bell was the recipient of the A\$3000 scholarship sponsored by the largest global supplier of event management software Certain Software, in partnership with mice.net magazine.

Bell, who was the only New Zealand candidate to be awarded the scholarship, says her interest in events started at a young age.

“Since secondary school I have been involved in the organisation of events. I started by putting the cones out for the run track of a triathlon, to being somehow nominated to swim out at 6am in the morning to put the buoy in position for swimmers to go around. Oblivious to me back then, this was the beginning of my profound interest in events and the intricate detail that goes into the organisation process.”

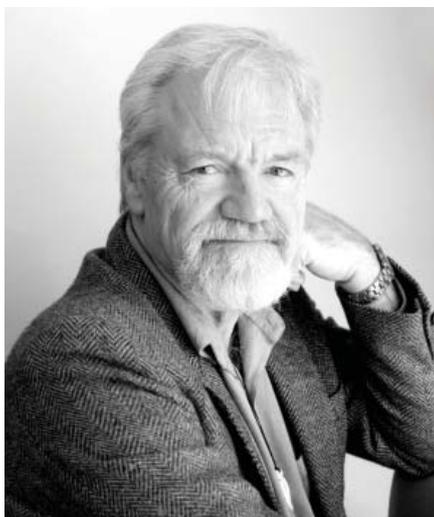
The Rising Star scholarships were open to students at colleges or universities across Australasia. Other



winners came from International College of Management Sydney, TAFE NSW Hunter Institute, Victoria University (Australia) and Gold Coast Institute of TAFE.

Looking to the future, Bell's star looks set to rise further. “After I graduate I have ambitions of gaining as much experience in the event management industry as possible, ideally working for an events management company. It is a goal and another challenge of mine, once I have gained a wealth of experience and knowledge, to start up my own company and run a business.”

AUT journalism educator among 'Atenisi international fellows



JOURNALISM lecturer Associate Professor David Robie has been inducted as an international fellow of 'Atenisi University in the Kingdom of Tonga. Dr Robie, director of the Pacific Media Centre in the School of Communication Studies and Creative Industries Research Institute, attended the induction ceremony in Nuku'alofa last month.

The occasion marked the 75th birthday of the founder of the university, Professor 'I Futa Helu, and three decades of history at the 'Atenisi Institute.

Professor Helu wrote the foreword for one of Dr Robie's books, *Nius Bilong Pasifik: Mass Media in the Pacific*, published by the University of Papua New Guinea Press in 1995.

Dr Robie also had discussions with 'Atenisi staff about plans to found a Tongan communication studies and media programme at the institution. AUT's School of Communication Studies is offering the first Graduate Diploma in Pacific Journalism programme in New Zealand next year.

BRIEFLY

Law School

An article by Professor Ian Eagles and Professor Louise Longdin, 'Subjecting Competition Law Exemptions to a Rule of Reason: New Zealand Courts Push at the Boundaries of Statutory Interpretation', has been accepted for publication in the highly ranked University of New South Wales Law Journal (forthcoming July 2009).

An article by Professor Louise Longdin 'Public Law Solutions to Private: Law Problems: Major Event Regulation Subverts Intellectual Property's Internal Balance' has been accepted for publication in the Oxford based Journal of Intellectual Property Law and Practice (forthcoming October 2009).

New appointment

Dr Antonio Díaz Andrade has recently joined the Business Information Systems discipline and brings rich and diverse experience to AUT. He obtained an Aeronautical-Mechanical Engineering degree from Instituto Universitario Aeronáutico in Argentina and spent 15 years in the Peruvian Air Force as an officer until he left as a Captain to pursue a MBA degree at Universidad ESAN, a leading Peruvian business school. Dr Díaz Andrade previously held the position of lecturer in Information Systems at ESAN from 2000 until 2004, before coming to New Zealand in order to undertake further study. During 2007 and 2008 he was a lecturer in the Management and International Business Department of The University of Auckland Business School.

Occupational Health and Safety Research Centre

The New Zealand Work and Labour Market Institute (NZWALMI) recently announced the elevation of the OHS research group to The Occupational Health and Safety Research Centre. Led by Associate Professor Felicity Lamm and Dr Mark Boocock, the group has associate members representing industry, government and trade unions. There is an enormous demand for dedicated research and teaching in OHS in the largest city in New Zealand. The OHS mission statement is to promote interdisciplinary study and research on OHS-related themes through collaboration and the participation of the wide community of OHS advocates.



Underwater world

CORAL REEFS, palm trees and clear water were only part of the attraction of a trip to Fiji for environmental studies student Alana Best. Now in her final year of the Bachelor of Applied Science, Best travelled to Fiji to explore the marine environment firsthand.

“Fiji has coral reefs that have yet to be explored and it supports a huge diversity of animals or organisms, more than any other marine environment. The hands-on experience of being able to see it was so valuable.”

Best explored the marine environment of Fiji’s Nananui-I-Ra Island along

with 19 students from Fiji Institute of Technology (FIT) who were studying the same marine ecology paper led by AUT’s Dr Andrea Alfaro.

“I went snorkelling on three different reefs, saw a different world underwater and learnt much about coral reefs themselves.”

Learning in such an immediate way is particularly important for Best.

“I am a visual person since I am Deaf so when I study or see things, I remember them more easily and can recall some of their scientific names or the full description of the organisms such as what they eat, do,

where they live and what they look like.”

Best is looking forward to completing her degree this year and carrying out practical work in the field.

The trip to Fiji is an option through AUT’s marine ecology paper and draws on the university’s partnership with FIT. The AUT-FIT relationship is in its tenth year, and has allowed for Fijian students to complete their AUT Bachelor degree through distance learning. Best is only the eighth student from AUT to take advantage of this short “student exchange” opportunity in the tropics.

Ready, steady, SKA

HARDWARE, software and research time gifted by IBM will make a big difference to AUT’s Institute for Radiophysics and Space Research as it leads New Zealand’s bid to take part in the world’s biggest radio astronomy project.

IBM granted hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of equipment and software to AUT in May under its Shared University Research scheme. These resources will strengthen AUT’s radio astronomy capabilities, and in turn New Zealand’s bid for a role in the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) project.

SKA is the world’s most ambitious and expensive radio astronomy project, due to be built between 2012 and 2020 at a cost of around NZ\$4.5 billion. Thousands of radio telescopes in Australia and New Zealand will be linked in real time and their data feeds synchronised and correlated,

allowing astronomers to analyse images from the most remote objects in the universe. This will help to answer fundamental questions like ‘how were the first stars and galaxies formed?’

SKA host countries are expected to make great economic gains, with around 1000 people-years of software development required for the project. Professor Sergei Gulyaev, Director of AUT’s Institute for Radiophysics and Space Research, is leading New Zealand’s SKA effort.

“IBM’s grant will allow us to simulate and test the process of streaming huge amounts of data with the incredible speed that SKA demands,” says Professor Gulyaev. “We are very grateful for this support, which will allow us to demonstrate what New Zealand has to offer.”

Other good news for the Institute and its SKA bid includes the recent arrival of a



Professor Sergei Gulyaev and AUT’s radio telescope located near Warkworth

precision atomic clock worth \$300,000 which will allow observations from the university’s radio telescope in Warkworth to be synchronised with international data.

“Our telescope recently had its first trial, known as the ‘first light’, and everything is working perfectly,” said Professor Gulyaev. “With the addition of the atomic clock, we will soon be ready to gather, stream and synchronise data in the way SKA will demand.”

SPOTLIGHT ON Occupational Science and Therapy

Q&A with Occupational Science and Therapy

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT Dr Kirk Reed and Dr Valerie Wright-St Clair explain how occupational science and therapy has evolved and how it is being applied.

What is Occupational Science and Therapy?

Occupational science is an interdisciplinary field in the social and behavioural sciences dedicated to the rigorous study of humans as “occupational beings”.

The term “occupation” refers to the goal-directed activities that characterise daily human life as well as the characteristics, patterns and meaning of purposeful activity that occur over the lifetime.

Occupational science informs occupational therapy practice through the development of knowledge, research, and understanding about occupation, and in promoting occupation for health and community development.

What’s behind the department name change from Occupational Therapy to Occupational Science and Therapy?

This name change reflects the exciting and dynamic academic environment we find ourselves in. The department has, since 1991, provided a leading edge entry to practice occupational therapy and adopting this name change signals its continued vision of leading and contributing internationally to both occupational science and occupational therapy.

How has the profession of occupational therapy changed over the last 20 years?

There is a significant shift from occupational therapy services provided in hospitals and institutions to public health and community settings. This clearer community focus aligns more closely with occupational therapy values and beliefs related to enabling peoples’ participation in meaningful, health-promoting occupations.

Where would you find occupational therapists?

Occupational therapists work in a range of health, community and social service settings in both physical and mental health. These services range from District Health Boards, schools, Non Government Organisations, ACC, private practice, and rest homes. There is a significant role for occupational therapists in Primary Health Organisations which is an emerging area of practice.

Holistic approach to mental health recovery

DISENGAGING can be a valid coping mechanism for people experiencing mental illness and should be recognised as a meaningful part of the recovery process says occupational therapy senior lecturer Daniel Sutton.

Sutton (pictured), who began lecturing at AUT in 1999, recently completed his PhD research looking at the role of “doing” and activity in recovery from mental illness.

One of the key findings of his research was the need for health professionals to understand the individual’s experience of the illness and the space they are in during different stages of recovery.

“A health professional might look at someone withdrawn and sitting on the couch and see that as negative or an obstacle to recovery but in actual fact it can be an active coping strategy. When the world is too overwhelming – the light, noise and activity of it all – there is meaning in that disengagement.”

Through his research Sutton identified four “modes of doing” – non doing, half doing, engaged doing and absorbed doing – which he says can help professionals understand what the person may be experiencing and ultimately help or encourage patients to re-engage in everyday life again.

In the non doing state people are disengaged and can be enabled to step back and look at their life. In this space Sutton says professionals can help guide people toward remembering things they care about and recapturing hope or a sense of possibility.

Half-doing and engaged-doing are important modes for individuals to reconnect with their bodies, the immediate environment and the everyday world of others.

The state of absorbed doing is important for recovering a sense of self and finding those activities that remind individuals of their passions and their uniqueness.

Sutton’s findings also have an application for the set-up of treatment facilities.

“Often facilities are set up around safety and institutional systems but it is not necessarily the best set up for patients. For example a busy ward is not ideal for the patient in the disengagement mode or trying to reconnect with the things they care about.”



ASK AN EXPERT

Dr Geoff Perry, Acting Dean of the Faculty of Business and Law, answers your questions about the AUT Venture Fund

What is the AUT Venture Fund?

The AUT Venture Fund is an enterprise fund established by the Business School aimed to give AUT University students a head start in setting up their own business and to enhance their learning experience.

Can all AUT students apply to the AUT Venture Fund?

Yes. If they are an AUT University student currently enrolled in any area of study wanting to start a new business enterprise they can apply to the fund.

Can students apply as individuals or in teams?

Both options are available. They can apply as individuals or in teams.

Do they have to be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident?

Yes. If students are applying as individuals, they need to be a current

AUT University student and either a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident. If they are applying in teams, then at least two of their company directors need to be New Zealand citizens or permanent residents.

Is the AUT Venture Fund a competition?

Of sorts. Whether AUT students enter as individuals or in teams, they are competing for a limited pool of funds. So in that way, yes, the AUT Venture Fund is a competition.

How much can students apply for?

We anticipate that students will apply for an average investment ranging from \$5,000 – \$10,000 with a maximum of \$20,000 per application to the fund.

Will the AUT Venture Fund own part of the businesses?

Yes and no. Only some of the businesses

will be part-owned by AUT. If students receive a grant of less than \$10,000, then no, AUT will not own a shareholding of the business. If they are awarded a grant of \$10,000 or more, however, AUT Enterprises Limited will hold a 20% equity shareholding on behalf of the AUT Venture Fund.

What are the key dates I need to know about?

The official launch date is the 28th July and if students plan to apply to the fund, they need to express their intention to submit a business plan online at: www.autventurefund.co.nz by the 17th August.

How do I deal with student enquiries about the AUT Venture Fund?

You can direct them to the AUT Venture Fund website for more information: www.autventurefund.co.nz

Leadership inspires wells

VILLAGERS in four rural Cambodian communities can now drink fresh water thanks to AUT's MBA leadership classes.

In 2006, leadership lecturer and author John Tan donated a copy of his book *The Inspirational Leader* to each of his students. Tan refused to accept any payment, so students instead donated money to two villages near Siem Reap in Cambodia to build much-needed wells.

Three years and six classes later, the initiative continues with an additional four wells built in Kok Thmey, Prey Kroch, Rokayear and Leandai. Tan says before getting their own wells, villagers collected dirty water from dug-out ponds.

"These communities are an hour away from the historic city of Siem Reap and are very poor places," he says. "Dirt roads lead into them and become inaccessible mud pools when it rains. The villagers live in run-down shacks or little thatched houses and they couldn't have built the

wells without the generosity of AUT MBA's students."

He says the villagers appreciate access to an ongoing supply of uncontaminated water.

"The water they get now comes from 15 metres underground and is clean," he says. "I'm privileged to be a part of our students' efforts in making a difference to the lives of some people in Cambodia and am very moved by their generosity."



BRIEFLY

Child Cancer Foundation thanks AUT volunteers

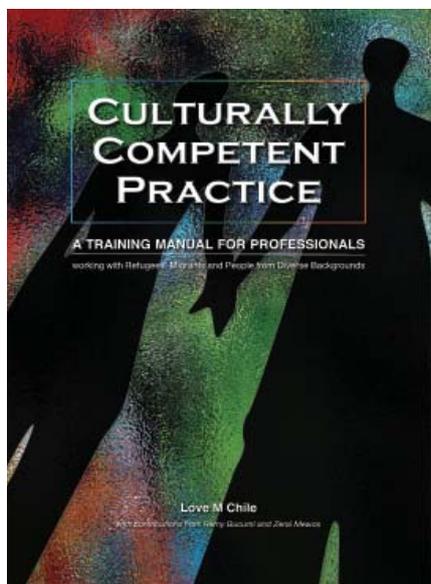
AUT staff and students who volunteered for the recent Child Cancer Foundation appeal raised \$2,036 and have been recognised by the foundation.

“On behalf of all New Zealand children and families on the childhood cancer journey, we would like to thank you for your help and support. Your generosity has made a difference to kids like these all over the country,” was a message passed on from the team at Child Cancer Foundation.

Labour of Love

THE RESULT of six years of work has come together in a book by Love Chile, Academic Director of the Centre for Community Investment and Development at the Institute of Public Policy (IPP).

Culturally Competent Practice is a training manual for professionals working with refugees, migrants and people from communities of diversity. It is the outcome of work Chile has been doing over the last few years with a number of organisations including work for Cross Cultural Workers and Refugee Services from across New Zealand. Between 2006 and 2008 Chile also provided monthly group supervision to social workers, youth workers, and community liaison persons with nine secondary schools and has worked within the community sector, hospitals, Child, Youth and Family Services and schools.



AUT student helping to save lost children

JOSEPH KONY abducts children and forces them to fight in the Ugandan civil war. Have you heard of him? Probably not, but an AUT student is working to make sure you do.

In 2007 Melody Cooper was in San Diego and volunteered for Invisible Children which aims to highlight the plight of the thousands of children abducted and forced to fight in Joseph Kony's rebel army.

After her time in America, Cooper returned home to study AUT's Certificate in Conflict Resolution and is now a representative for Invisible Children in New Zealand.

“The good thing about the course is the broad range of topics it covers. There was a paper which focused on interpersonal conflict which was great for me as I spent a lot of time on the road working closely with other people and there's so much I wouldn't have known if I hadn't done the course,” says Cooper.

Most recently Cooper ran an overnight advocacy event in Auckland called the Rescue of Joseph Kony's child soldiers and was joined by 100 other cities around the world in a global experiment to try to bring the conflict to an end.

Invisible Children makes short films about the war in Uganda and what they've done so far to try and facilitate peace talks. Cooper has recently completed a three month tour around NZ and Australia where they screened Invisible Children films at 165 locations ranging from high schools to universities, churches to pubs.

The non-profit organisation, which recently featured on Oprah, works to transform apathy into activism. By documenting the lives of those living in regions of conflict and injustice invisible to the world, it hopes to educate and inspire individuals in the West to use their unique voice for change. For more information about Invisible Children, visit www.invisiblechildren.com

Tourism research attracts \$15,000 scholarship

AUT SENIOR Lecturer and Programme Leader Kate Payne has been awarded a \$15,000 Ministry of Tourism research scholarship.

Payne, who teaches on the Diploma of Hospitality Management, says the grant will go towards her research on the tourism consumption patterns, behaviour and motivation of international students who travel domestically in New Zealand while studying.

The research delves into the destinations international students travel to, accommodation style, mode of transport, food outlets they buy food at and activities they undertake along the way.

It also looks at their reasons for travelling and the economic impact

they have on New Zealand.

“I've always had an interest in international students. There's a misperception that student travellers are economically unviable and less lucrative than other markets but overseas studies have shown this is not true. In fact student travellers often spend as much or more than say a package tour tourist and they also travel more often and stay longer in a destination than a holiday type tourist,” she says.

Payne is hoping her research will prove this trend. “I am also hopeful that distinct markets will emerge that will enable the tourism industry and its operators to offer appropriate products and services to the international student market.”

Film festival success

SHORT FILMS by two AUT University graduates have been selected for the New Zealand International Film Festival 2009, which opens in Auckland on 9 July. *Humanchine* by Gina Kindred and *In the Name of Art* by Mardo El-Noor, will feature in the festival's 'Homegrown' programme, New Zealand's leading showcase for short films.

Humanchine

Humanchine is an animated narrative directed by Gina Kindred which explores the possibility of a human/machine hybrid forming as a result of our increased interaction with machines. Created by Kindred as part of the honours year of her Bachelor of Art and Design, *Humanchine* took almost three months to create. Using still photography, After Effects, Photoshop and audio mixing software, Kindred plays with the idea of the hybrid. The film's soundtrack continues this theme, combining human vocals, synthesised tunes and re-mixed tracks.

Designed as a narrative loop, *Humanchine* takes scientific progress into a fictional realm where Kindred asks:

"what is the cost of our increasing reliance on machines?"

Now working full-time as a creative for an international production company, Kindred says she is yet to be struck by the inspiration for her next short film.

In the Name of Art

Mardo El-Noor has plenty of diverse material to draw from in his creative pursuits, after living all over the world and working as a dentist, graphic designer, illustrator, musician and now filmmaker. *In the Name of Art*, which began as a thesis project for El-Noor's Master of Arts at AUT, tells the strange story of two artists, an art competition and a murder.

The project was completed over 18 months, with El-Noor making the most of AUT's facilities, expertise and time volunteered by students from diverse disciplines.

In the Name of Art won El-Noor a Silver Award in the student category at the 2008 BeST Awards and he is hoping to see it included in some overseas festivals. In the meantime, his projects include



Humanchine



In the Name of Art

development of a short animated film and a children's picture book.

The New Zealand International Film Festival opens in Auckland on 9 July and travels around New Zealand until late November 2009. For more details see: www.nzff.co.nz

WHAT'S ON?

• AUT Venture fund launch

For staff and students with FREE sausage sizzle.

When: 12pm, Tuesday, July 28 **Where:** Hikuwai Plaza (Hub if it rains), AUT City Campus

• Inaugural professorial address

Krishnamachar Prasad, Professor, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Faculty of Design and Creative Technologies. The wonderful world of Microelectronics.

When: Tuesday 7th July, 2009 **Where:** WA Conference Centre, 4.30 pm–5.30 pm, City Campus. Please RSVP your attendance to sue.chapman@aut.ac.nz

• New Zealand Work and Labour Market Institute (NZWALMI) symposium

Productivity & Employment Relations in Small Market Economies: Weathering the Economic Crisis.

When: Tuesday and Wednesday, September 1-2, 2009 **Where:** AUT Business School, City Campus

Speakers: Academics and experts from New Zealand, Norway and the Netherlands. For more information email nzwalmi@aut.ac.nz

Decision to study rewarded with scholarship

IT WAS a hard decision for Nomana Anaru to give up his job to study as a mature student full-time at AUT. Now in his last year of a Bachelor of Māori Development Anaru has been rewarded with a \$1000 scholarship from the Society of Local Government Managers (SOLGM). Each year SOLGM awards one scholarship to each university in New Zealand and for the first time this year AUT was included as a recipient.

The Local Government Centre at AUT recommended the award go to a Māori student and asked Te Ara Poutama to find a worthy recipient. They decided to give it to a student studying the Iwi Resource Management paper. Part of the terms of the scholarship meant that Anaru had to do his Co-operative Education placement within a local authority. Anaru chose to do his at Manukau City Council and was placed in the Community Services team.

Anaru was presented with his scholarship at a ceremony at Manukau City Council attended by AUT staff, including his supervisor Valance Smith, and council officers. He says his time at council has been a real eye-opener for him and has given him insight into how a council is run.

Diane Maloney, Manukau City Council Manager of Community Services and SOLGM representative, says it was a pleasure having Anaru on the team for his placement.

CEPD CLIPBOARD



Open days in new premises

CEPD opened its doors to AUT staff recently when it held open days to launch its new premises. Now located at AE109 (North Shore Campus) and Level 1 WY building (Duthie Whyte building), staff members were invited to check out the new locations and see some of the resources and facilities provided.

Although it was a beautifully clear day, the open day on the North Shore Campus was one of the coldest this winter, but luckily the coffee kart, hot drinks and muffins provided by CEPD were close by.

Peter Mellow, Flexible Learning Advisor for the Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences, is now based in AE109, and a number of other CEPD staff will spend one day a week on campus. In addition there is now a small suite of computers in the CEPD centre which provide North Shore Campus staff with an on-the-spot training facility for both PC and Mac users. Michele Bioletti and Bridgit Bretherton-Jones provide regular drop-in support for AUTonline users, and Charles Rafi from IT Services provides staff training in other software applications.

Following the successful morning on the North Shore Campus, City Campus staff got to visit CEPD's new premises on Level 1 of Duthie Whyte building (WY) opposite the Business building.

Resources and displays were set up for visitors to look at and visitors were taken on a tour of the floor which is also home to Ako Aotearoa, the National Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence. The new premises offer increased seminar room and computer training suite capacity, and the new facilities will serve as a one-stop-shop for professional development support and training available to staff on the City Campus.

Volunteering work recognised with award

AUT STAFF member Bridgit Bretherton-Jones (pictured) has been named Volunteer of the Year for her advocacy work with Preventing Violence in the Home at the inaugural Intrepid Travel National Volunteer Awards.

Bretherton-Jones, who works in CEPD and is a part-time postgraduate student, was recognised for her volunteering work over the past five years at the country's biggest anti-violence agency, Preventing Violence in the Home.

The organisation's development director Mary Zefirelli says Bridgit's mentoring skills have been pivotal. "Her ability to remain cheerful and compassionate when being called out from her bed at 2am on a cold winter's morning to visit a



client on the other side of Auckland underscores her commitment to victims of domestic violence.

"She has fulfilled her role with distinction and embodies all that is special about our volunteer heroes."

The award was presented by Hon. Tariana Turia, Minister of Voluntary and Community Sector at AUT St Paul Street Gallery.

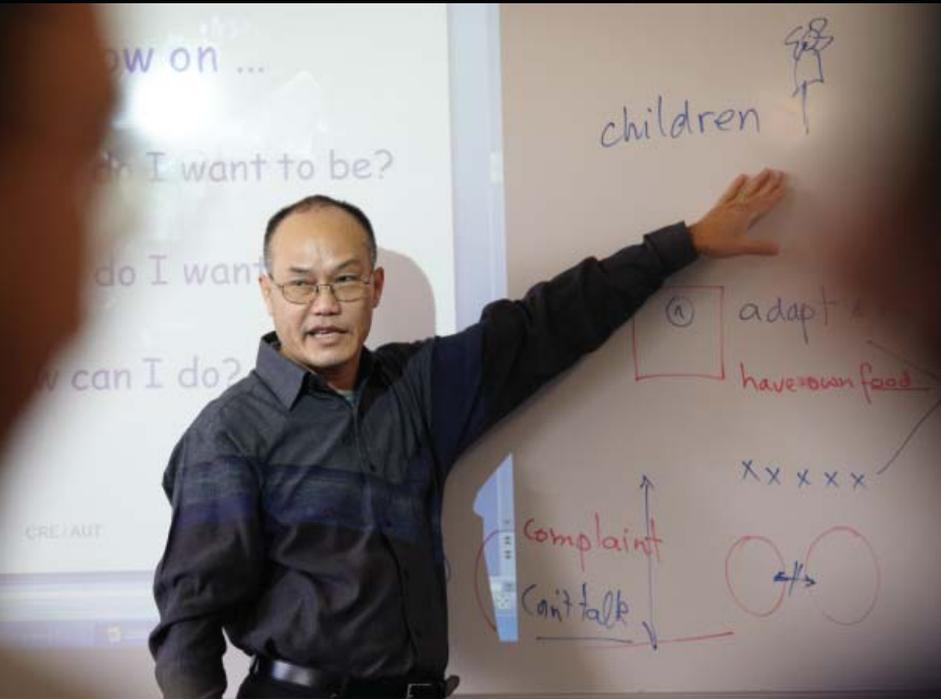
Diary 9th September – 2009 Allied Staff Development Conference – "Resilience in Turbulent Times: Keeping ahead of the game?" This year's conference features inspirational keynote speaker Ngahihi o te ra Bidois plus a wealth of motivational and informative workshops. If you would like to contribute please call Carol or Vivienne at CEPD.

Bereavement

IT WAS WITH sadness that we farewelled Judi Campbell who was the Flexible Learning Advisor in CEPD and looked after the online learning needs of the Faculty of Business and Law. Judi died suddenly on Friday 29 May as the result of a brain haemorrhage. Although Judi had been unwell for some time, she admirably maintained a cheerful and positive approach to her work with colleagues and faculty staff.

Judi joined AUT almost five years ago after being a lecturer at Unitec, and Massey University prior to that. She was highly respected by her CEPD colleagues and faculty staff, and will be greatly missed by us all.





From refugee to PhD

FROM REFUGEE – to refugee teacher – to a PhD. Man Hau Liev has come a long way since he arrived in New Zealand as a refugee in the 80s.

In 1980 Liev came to the Mangere Refugee Reception Centre as a refugee from Cambodia. Inhumane acts and tough living conditions meant living in Cambodia was no longer a safe option for Liev.

He first encountered AUT via the Centre for Refugee Education; a centre run by AUT to deliver orientation programmes and English language skills.

After working as a labourer and studying, Liev became a bi-lingual tutor at the centre in 1988. In 1999 he was promoted to senior lecturer and began teaching English to refugee students at the centre with a focus on teaching literacy.

He has since written articles on refugee resettlement issues for academic publications and delivered papers at national and international conferences. He has also just completed his PhD on 'Adaptation of the Cambodian Community in New Zealand: Achievement, cultural identity and community development'.

Liev says the centre is a very unique place and gives refugees the opportunity to learn about the New Zealand way of

life before joining the community.

"It's a good thing because it can help prevent people making mistakes and provides a way for refugees to assimilate into real life."

Maria Hayward, Centre Manager, says teaching literacy is quite hard so Liev undertook some of his own training to learn how to teach literacy. "He has a huge amount of warmth and empathy and is a great entertainer. He managed to combine his learning with those strong personality traits and as a result he's been a really popular teacher with us.

"When you walk into his classroom, there's a lovely atmosphere because he responds to the class as human beings not necessarily as refugees. I think his own life experiences have meant he is naturally instinctive and has genuine concern for peoples' ideas, comments and responses and that's apparent in his classroom," she says.

Liev says, "I think as a refugee myself I can understand their feelings and needs. When you go through that type of experience yourself you can relate to it, and to people, in a way that others possibly couldn't. I guess it teaches you a certain amount of patience and you learn to go along with the speed of new people."

E-fashion comes to AUT

THE FUTURISTIC world of electronic clothing was brought to life by a visiting expert in June for AUT's CoLab.

Dr Buechley, from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was in New Zealand to talk about the idea of making technology accessible as the keynote speaker at CoLab's Creating Technologies conference.

Her work is driven by the idea of integrating traditional design materials with computational capabilities. She has invented a tiny computer called the LilyPad Arduino which is programmed and sewn onto fabric, making it possible for clothing to react to sound, light and touch.

The LilyPad came about when Buechley searched for ways to combine her seemingly divergent interests in engineering and sewing. Participants enjoyed having access to Dr Buechley's expertise and advice as they used the LilyPad in diverse ways. Other workshop projects included a glove that warns of bad tennis technique, a scarf that lights up when touched and mittens with inbuilt temperature sensors.

Worldwide, the LilyPad has been used to make a diverse range of creations, from interactive wall hangings to dancewear that creates matching music to stuffed toys that act as video game controllers.

Closer to home, AUT lecturer Lyle Reilly has created a cycling jacket that indicates when the wearer turns.



Master of Art and Design student Laura Marsh sewing the LilyPad Arduino onto a scarf that lights up when touched



Professor on wheels

VERY RARELY are Harley Davidsons and academic regalia spotted in close proximity but those attending last month's professorial address by Darius Singh from the School of Engineering witnessed such a novel event.

The wheels of the iconic motorcycle were produced using Professor Singh's research on liquid metal mouldings. Attendees were also able to check out wheel hubs of different makes and models of car to see how his findings on the way liquid metal settles and cools in moulds are used by the automotive industry to build safer, more robust vehicles while reducing waste and production costs. In his paper Research, Development and Deployment (RD&D™) – the new 'R&D' Professor Singh took the audience on a journey of his research career to discover how he created the philosophy of RD&D™.

A leader of leaders

SIR PETER BLAKE was one of New Zealand's most revered leaders and his skill in assembling, managing and leading teams is discussed in Professor Mark Oram's new book.

Blake: Leader looks at Sir Peter's



Professor Mark Oram

successful style of leadership from Oram's personal viewpoint. Sailor, marine scientist, environmentalist, adventurer, AUT Professor of Tourism and Associate Director, New Zealand Tourism Research Institute, Oram sailed around the world with Sir Peter and worked with him at Team NZ and Blakexpeditions.

The book provides insight from Oram and other crew mates and colleagues who worked closely with Blake, with observations on his leadership before he was tragically killed in 2001. The book also includes a DVD of Sir Peter talking about great leadership.

The book will be officially launched on 3rd July to coincide with NZ Leadership week; an event started by the Sir Peter Blake Trust. Oram was the inaugural executive director of the Trust from 2004 to 2007. Sir Peter attended AUT from 1966

and completed his Mechanical Engineering Degree in 1968. He was awarded an honorary doctorate in 2000.

Win a copy of Blake: Leader

Blake: Leader is available in stores now but Inside AUT has two copies to give away to AUT staff. If you'd like to be in to win, email nic.scrivin@aut.ac.nz with the subject heading "Book competition" and answer the following question: The book is written about the leadership style of which New Zealand icon? Emails must be received by 30th July and winners will be drawn randomly and announced in the next issue of Inside AUT.

